

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 088107
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-07 AID-05
IGA-02 MC-02 EB-08 TRSE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RKMCKEE:GN
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:RKMCKEE
NEA:ADUBS (SUBS)
PM:DKEENE (INFO)
NEA/P:GSHERMAN (INFO)
-----200720Z 017556 /15
R 192311Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PK, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON TEAR GAS HOLDUP TO PAKISTAN

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE APRIL 19.
SUBJECT DID NOT ARISE:

Q. ARE YOU HOLDING UP A SHIPMENT OF TEAR GAS FOR THE PAKIS-
TANI POLICE? A. YES, ON APRIL 18 THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DID STOP A DOLS 68,000 SHIPMENT OF TEAR GAS PROJECTILES
AND LAUNCHERS FOR PAKISTAN. WE ARE REVIEWING THE MATTER
IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN PAKISTAN.

Q. HAD YOU ORIGINALLY APPROVED THE SHIPMENT? A. WE DID
ISSUE A MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE, ACCORDING TO NORMAL PRO-
CEDURES ON MARCH 15. WE HAVE SUSPENDED THE LICENSE AND
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HAVE HELD THE SHIPMENT NOW BECAUSE CONDITIONS IN PAKISTAN
HAVE CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FOUR WEEKS SINCE THE
LICENSE WAS ISSUED.

Q. IS NOT YOUR REFUSAL TO GO FORWARD WITH THE SHIPMENT A
SIGNAL OR IMPLIED CRITICISM OF THE WAY BHUTTO IS HANDLING
HIS DOMESTIC SITUATION? A. THESE LICENSES ARE CONSIDERED

ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT A WIDER RANGE

OF FACTORS. WE ARE REVIEWING THE CASE IN LIGHT OF THE EXISTING SITUATION IN PAKISTAN. I AM NOT MAKING A SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PAKISTAN. (IF PRESSED ON THE SITUATION IN PAKISTAN); WE SEE THE SAME REPORTS YOU DO. IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE ARE CIVIL DISTURBANCES ARISING OUT OF THE RECENT ELECTIONS.

Q. HAS THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT BEEN PRESSING YOU TO SEND THE TEAR GAS? A. THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN EXERTED NO PRESSURE ON US AND ITS EMBASSY MADE ONLY ROUTINE INQUIRIES ABOUT THE LICENSE. WE STOPPED SHIPMENT BECAUSE CONDITIONS IN PAKISTAN HAD CHANGED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE FOUR WEEKS SINCE IT WAS ISSUED.

Q. HAVE AMERICAN COMPANIES PREVIOUSLY SHIPPED TEAR GAS TO PAKISTAN? WHEN WAS THE MOST RECENT SHIPMENT? A. YES. IN FEBRUARY WE LICENSED A SHIPMENT OF SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS OF SAMPLE RIOT-CONTROL ITEMS FOR PAKISTAN. A SIMILAR LICENSE WAS ISSUED THE PREVIOUS DECEMBER.

Q. WHICH COMPANY IS INVOLVED? A. MUNITIONS CONTROL LICENSE APPLICATIONS CONTAIN PROPRIETARY INFORMATION. WE HAVE A POLICY OF NOT SPECIFYING THE COMPANIES INVOLVED.

2. SUBSTANCE PASSED TO PAKISTAN EMBASSY HERE. YOU MAY DRAW ON THIS SHOULD GOP MAKE INQUIRY.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, INCAPACITATING AGENTS, POLICE FORCES, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE088107
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RKMCKEE:GN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770136-0921
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770441/aaaabjkr.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
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Message ID: 29d4b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PK, US
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